Jerusalem, the vision of peace, where the Divine Clemency will make us all kings and lords, and will reward every labour to whoso endures it for His most sweet love." [1]

To the Queen Mother of Hungary, too, Elizabeth of Poland, Catherine wrote, telling her that Giovanna's support had been secured, imploring her to use her influence with her son, King Louis, to induce him to accede to the Pope's request, and serve the Church with his arms. "The Church has need of your human aid, and you have need of her divine aid. Be assured that, the more you give her of your aid, the more you will partake of the divine grace, the fire of the Holy Spirit, which is contained in her. I, wretched, miserable woman, have nothing wherewith to aid her ; but if my blood could be of any avail, I would gladly shed it all. But I will do this much : I will give her that little particle that God gives me, that it may be helpful to her, albeit I see nought in me that is useful that I can give, save tears and sighs and continual prayer. But you, mother, and my lord the King, your son, can aid her with prayers through holy desire, and can also at your will and with love support her by human aid. Do not shun, then, for the love of God, this labour ; but embrace it for Christ crucified, for your own utility and exaltation, and to work out your salvation. And pray your dear son earnestly to offer himself for love to serve Holy Church." 2

But, in the meantime, the political horizon in central Italy had been growing darker and darker. The two papal legates, Cardinal de Noellet at Bologna, the Abbot of Marmoutier at Perugia, were steadily filling the cup of their iniquities to the brim, and the prophecies of Birgitta and Petrarca were soon to be fulfilled to the letter. In the summer of this year, 1375, the storm burst with dramatic suddenness.

From the outset of Gregory's pontificate, the Florentines had been alarmed by the subjugation of Perugia, and had attempted

[1] Letter 143 (313), dated August 4. Giovanna, as the descendant of Charles ef Anjou, bore the tide of Queen of Jerusalem.

[2] Letter 145 (311).